

PATENT APPLICATION
IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

November 21, 2002

Applicants: Alice C. MARTINO et al

For: TABLET FORMULATION

Serial No.: 09/656 364

Group: 1617

Confirmation No.: 3730

Filed: September 6, 2000

Examiner: Sharareh

Atty. Docket No.: Pharmacia Case 6107.N CN2

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated August 27, 2002, Applicants respectfully request entry of the following amendments:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended paragraph is enclosed herewith.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 10 and ending on page 3, line 32, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A rapidly precipitating drug is a pharmaceutical compound, or its salt form, which when introduced in water, or simulated physiological fluids at body temperature, begins to dissolve fairly rapidly and then begins to rapidly precipitate out of solution within 60 minutes to a less soluble form which provides a concentration that is less than therapeutic. This precipitation results in slow and incomplete dissolution. In most cases, the amount precipitating can be up to 90% or greater which leaves about 10% or less available for therapeutic activity. It is preferred that the rapidly precipitating drug is a fairly soluble or highly soluble salt

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